

I am concerned about the implications of broadband over power line regarding increasing the background noise level for amateur radio reception. Recently fellow amateur radio operators (myself included) experienced increased noise due to WLS radio coming over the high voltage power lines. We worked with WLS to trace the source and found the station was in compliance.

In the town of Mokena there are several high voltage transmission lines. The background noise (WLS) seemed to come from specific towers. One of our fellow amateurs complained several times to Commonwealth Edison and after 1 and year they finally grounded the counterpoise wires on top of the transmission line towers that were passive radiators for WLS (through no fault to WLS). The noise decreased tremendously with the grounding of the counterpoise. The amateur community informed Commonwealth Edison about the grounding problem, and it took that long to fix it.

I feel that the use of broadband over power lines in our community will increase the background noise of HF radio and Commonwealth Edison has a history of not responding promptly to our concerns about their equipment. I don't have confidence in the power company's word that it won't affect other radio services.